

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Application No.:	10/575,078	Examiner:	Justin Lewis
Filing Date:	01/19/2007	Art Unit:	3725
First Inventor:	Gerhard Schwenk	Customer No.:	23364
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For:	VALUE DOCUMENT		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Pursuant to Rule 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted on form PTO/SB/08B. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each non-patent literature listed on form PTO/SB/08B is submitted herewith.

Additional Information Not Listed on Form PTO/SB/08B

The references cited herein were cited in an opposition proceeding in a European application which corresponds to the above-noted pending application.

The undated, non-English documents listed below are submitted for consideration by the examiner.

- DM-Banknotedabbildungen, Deutsche Bundesbank (marked as D7) relates to

bank notes of the former German currency “Deutsche Mark.” This document essentially illustrates bank notes of “Deutsche Mark” and lists certain properties thereof, such as the color and the size. As security features, in particular, tactile recognizable impressions, watermarking, labeled security threads and transmission light registers are mentioned.

- Euro banknotes (marked as D8) Wikipedia page describes that in the European opposition proceedings, it was referred to as Euro banknotes currently. The Wikipedia page shows images of the Euro banknotes since photocopies of Euro banknotes can not be submitted herewith.
- DM Banknoten (marked as D9) also relates to bank notes of series BB-K3a of the former German currency “Deutsche Mark” and essentially illustrates banknotes of the “Deutsche Mark.” Certain security features are marked, such as a watermarking, a security thread, a pearlescent color, a hologram as well as a number showing the denomination. Examples of pearlescent color, the hologram, the watermarking and the security thread are shown for different bank notes. Further, the fluorescence at 313 nm of a 200 DM banknote and an infrared image of a 50 DM banknote and the infrared luminescence are shown.

Concise Statement of Relevancy
(Non-English Language Documents Only)

The relevancy of each non-English document is stated below:

- euro2002, Deutsche Bundesbank, September 2001 (marked as D1) relates to the introduction of Euro Bank notes and coins in 2002. Page 9 of this document relates to security features of Euro bank notes, such as safety threads, special foil strips, watermarkings, pearlescent strips, special foil elements and an element, which changes color when tilted.

- Magdeburger Volksstimme, 2002/2002 (marked as D2) relates to a number of newspaper articles published in years 2001 and 2002. The articles essentially relate to the introduction of Euro bank notes and coins in 2002. As explained, Euro bank notes can be distinguished well due to their different colors and sizes. On page 2, several security features of Euro bank notes are discussed, in particular transmitted light registers, security threads, intaglio printings, water-marking, and special foil elements. Page 7 relates to security features of the Euro bank notes. The security features are classified into security features which are visible in transmitted light (e.g. watermarking and safety threads), are tactile recognizable security features (e.g. intaglio printing and pure cotton notes), change when the note is tilted (e.g. silver stripes showing either the Euro symbol or the denomination depending on the viewing angle of a hologram; a yellow or golden stripe becoming visible and showing the Euro symbol and the denomination when the note is tilted; a special foil element in which a hologram shows either an image or the denomination; an element showing the denomination and changing a color when the bank note is tilted), and the general look of the bank notes (e.g. all notes have different colors and show different images).
- der EURO, UNSER Geld, European Central Bank (marked as D3) reference also relates to the introduction of Euro bank notes and coins in 2002 and corresponds to an extract of the above document D1. On the backside of the flyer certain security features of bank notes are explained, in particular watermarking, security threads, special foil strips, special foil elements, pearlescent strips, elements changing a color when tilted and the bank note being produced of pure cotton being a tactile recognizable security feature. Applicant is not aware of the exact date of this document, but it was released before 2002.

- Geldmacher; Das geheimste Gewerbe der Welt, Klaus W. Bender (marked as D4) relates, on pages 140 and 141, to automatic checking of the condition of the bank notes. Automatic authenticity checking can be simplified by the use of lanthanides on the bank note, which emit light in a specific wavelength band, when illuminated with a strong light source. In order to further complicate falsification of the bank notes, an isotope can be used to overlay the lanthanide. The resulting anorganic mixture of oxides became known as the “m-feature”, where “m” stands for machine readable. For the recognition of the “m-feature”, special sensors were needed. A bank note to be checked automatically was presented to the Deutsche Bundesbank in 1975 and two years later a semi-automatic bank note processing machine. At this point of time, the Deutsche Bundesbank used the marking material. Today, the “m-feature” is applied during the production on the wet bank note paper by blowing it onto a certain trace of the bank note paper, depending on the denomination of the bank note. Further, the “m-feature” is mixed into colors used for printing the bank note.
 - Page 235 of the Bender reference again refers to the fact that Euro bank notes exhibit security features that are supposed to prevent fraud and enable automatic recognition, checking and sorting of the bank notes. One of those security features is the above-mentioned “m-feature” of Giesecke and Devrient. It is further outlined that various security features are provided on or in the paper used for the production of the bank notes or added to the color used for printing the bank notes.
- Peace and Freedom Stamps of 1995 (marked as D5) are shown in a letter. The denomination and a stylized head are indicated on the stamps. The final

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page of this document shows an UV-image of the stamps, wherein depending on the denomination of the stamps, one or two bands are visible.

Statement Regarding Translations

English language translations of the non-English language documents are not available to Applicant's attorney.

Statement of Timeliness

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after three months from (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) after three months from entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or (iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies; and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, but prior to issuance of the earlier of any Final Action or Notice of Allowance sent in such application. The certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is submitted separately or below, or the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

Please charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-0200.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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